

EMS Committee Meeting GETAC, 5-7-2008

Meeting called to order by Chairman Pete Wolf at 10:05.

Committee members present were; C. Callsen, L. Charpentier, K. Deramus, M. Farris, A. Garcia, A. Johnson, L. Maes, L. Mitchell, B. Petrilla, C. Smith, L. Squires, D. Waite, P. Wolf

Committee members absent; A. Aaron (removed due to # of consecutive absence-5, and new position with DSHS), B. Coughlan (2 consecutive absences), M. Miriovsky (removed, resigned due to work load), D. Owen (removed due to # of consecutive absences-4), K. Price (1 absence), K. Roles (removed due to # of consecutive absences-3)

NOTE; The committee now has 15 members, with 7 needed for a quorum.

Report from the Office EMS/Trauma Systems, Maxey Bishop;

1. He informed everyone of Steve Janda's departure and thanked him for all his contributions over the past 8 years. Steve will be going to work for Dell Children's Hospital in Austin.
2. Briefed everyone on the evacuation efforts of the West Texas Religious compound and thanked those agencies which participated. DSHS was also heavily involved. He assured everyone that their reimbursements were being handled expeditiously.

Discussion and possible action items;

1. GETAC restructuring discussion; after a lengthy discussion a motion was made to recommend that original structure be retained and more emphasizes put on assignments, establishing definite time frames for work and accountability.

Motion passed unanimously. TBD if item remains on the agenda.

2. EMS Leadership classes; Woody from TEEX addressed the group informing all of the classes that were available and the success they have had to date.

No action taken. Item to be remove from the agenda.

3. EMS Critical Care Paramedic Certification; L. Charpentier addressed the committee with the thought of possibly adding this new, higher level of EMT certification. It was decided to table the discussion, allowing everyone to solicit input and give the idea some thought.

Motion made and passed unanimously to table this discussion and place it on the agenda for the next meeting.

4. EMS as an essential service; D. Waite reported that at the last meeting there was a lengthy discussion on this topic and several stake holders were willing to step up their efforts and involvement in an attempt to raise awareness and help achieve the elevation of EMS as an essential service.

No action taken, but should remain as an agenda item.

5. Pre-hospital intubation policies/procedures; With all the recent reporting in the state and nationally concerning failed intubations and RSI procedures, it was felt

that we, as advisory committees should be proactive in gathering information and research data, identify then address the issues. By doing so, we hope to divert any possible legislative action that may be introduced in the next session.. D. Waite agreed to be in charge of organizing some meetings to start working on this project and present our ideas to the other effected GETAC committees.

To remain as an agenda.

6. Education Committee Update; No Education Committee members were present, everyone was advised to attend their meeting to get their updates, including the latest information on the NR requirement to have all paramedic programs taught by accredited programs by 2013.

TBD if item remains on the agenda.

Discussion from the audience was held on all the above action items prior to the votes.

A brief summary that will be presented to GETAC was given by the Chair.

The next meeting dates were announced, August 13-15 at the Airport Hilton in Austin.

Meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

Recorded and presented by Pete Wolf, EMS Committee Chair.